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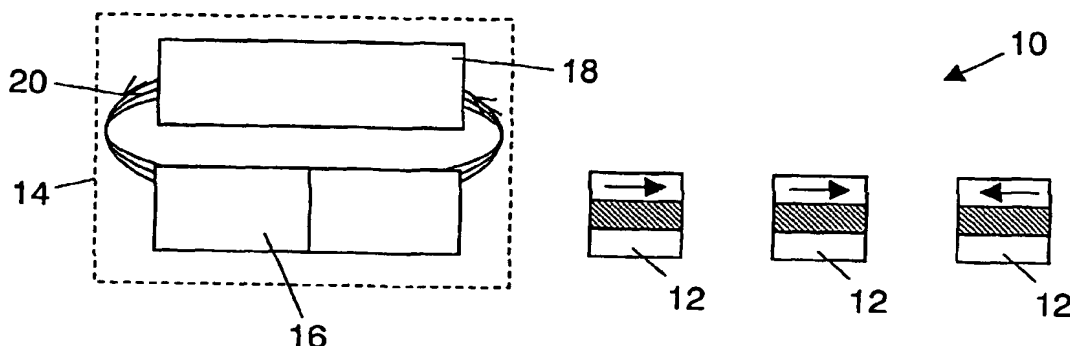
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PROTECTION OF AN MRAM DEVICE AGAINST TAMPERING



(57) Abstract: Data, stored in MRAM-cells (12) should be protected against misuse or read-out by unauthorised persons. The present invention provides an array (10) of MRAM-cells (12) provided with a security device (14) for destroying data stored in the MRAM-cells (12) when they are tampered with. This is achieved by placing a permanent magnet (16) adjacent the MRAM-array (10) in combination with a soft-magnetic flux-closing layer (18). As long as the soft-magnetic layer (18) is present, the magnetic field lines (20) from the permanent magnet (16) are deviated and flow through this soft-magnetic layer (18). When somebody is tampering with the MRAM-array (10), e.g. by means of reverse engineering, and the flux-closing layer (18) is removed, the flux is no longer deviated and affects the nearby MRAM-array (10), thus destroying the data stored in the MRAM-cells (12).



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 2001/033012 A1 (KOEMMERLING OLIVER ET AL) 25 October 2001 (2001-10-25) paragraph '0059! - paragraph '0066! paragraph '0097! - paragraph '0117! paragraph '0218! - paragraph '0219! -----	1-3,5-7, 9,10, 12-14 4,8,11

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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